

CLAIMS

1. A water distribution system, the system including one or more circulation members through which water can pass, characterised in that one or more decontaminating members are restrainably located within the body and freely movable therein, the or each decontaminating member having an outer surface of an antibacterial material.
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2. A system according to claim 1, characterised in that the system is arranged such that when no water is passing therethrough the decontaminating member or members will locate in a lowermost part or parts of the member or members.
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3. A system according to claims 1 or 2, characterised in that the antibacterial material comprises silver or a silver compound.
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4. A system according to any of the preceding claims, characterised in that the decontaminating member or members have a coating of antibacterial material.
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5. A system according to any of the preceding claims, characterised in that the decontaminating member or members are any of spherical, oval, cuboidal, or be in the form of lengths of strip.
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6. A system according to any of the preceding claims, characterised in that the decontaminating member or members have a contoured surface, which may include projections which may be in the form of spikes.
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7. A system according to any of the preceding claims, characterised in that the decontaminating member or members are formed from material in the form of a mesh.

8. A system according to claim 7, characterised in that the decontaminating member or members are formed into a required shape.

5 9. A system according to any of the preceding claims, characterised in that the decontaminating member or members are made of any of copper, steel, plastics material or silver.

10 10. A system according to any of the preceding claims, characterised in that the decontaminating member or members are solid or hollow.

15 11. A system according to any of the preceding claims, characterised in that one or more passages are provided through the decontaminating member or members, with the surfaces of the passages being formed by an antibacterial material.

12. A system according to any of the preceding claims, characterised in that some of the decontaminating members sink in water.

20 13. A system according to any of the preceding claims, characterised in that some of the decontaminating members float in water.

14. A system according to claim 13, characterised in that said decontaminating members include a portion of a material which is less dense than water.

25 15. A system according to claims 13 or 14 when dependent on claim 12, characterised in that a mixture of decontaminating members which respectively either float or sink in water are provided.

30 16. A system according to any of the preceding claims, characterised in that filter means are provided at an upstream part and/or downstream part of

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the circulation member to prevent the decontaminating member or members passing out of the circulation member.

17. A system according to claim 16, characterised in that the filter means

5 are coated or made from antibacterial material.

18. A system according to claims 16 or 17, characterised in that the filter means are substantially planar, generally spherical or generally frusto conical.

10 19. A system according to any of claims 16 to 18, characterised in that the filter means are formed of a mesh material.

20. A system according to claim 19, characterised in that the filter means are in the form of a body of mesh material.

15 21. A system according to claim 20, characterised in that a body of mesh material provides a friction fit in the circulation member.

20 22. A system according to claims 20 or 21, characterised in that one or more decontaminating members are restrainably located in the body.

25 23. A system according to any of the preceding claims, characterised in that the circulation member is in the form of a shower head assembly including a hollow body through which water passes in use.

24. A system according to claim 23, characterised in that the shower head assembly includes a spray member defining a plurality of outlets through which water passes to provide a spray, and the spray member has an outer surface of an antibacterial material.

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25. A system according to claim 24, characterised in that the spray member is coated with an antibacterial material or made of an antibacterial material.

5 26. A system according to any of claims 23 to 25, characterised in that the hollow body is made of plastics material.

27. A system according to any of claims 23 to 26, characterised in that at least a lower part in use of the hollow body is provided with a layer of 10 antibacterial material.

28. A system according to claim 27, characterised in that the layer is provided by an insert located in the hollow body.

15 29. A system according to claim 27, characterised in that the layer is provided by a coating of antibacterial material on the interior of the hollow body.

20 30. A system according to any of claims 1 to 22, characterised in that the circulation member is in the form of a calorifier including a receptacle for water to be heated, with the decontaminating member or members restrainably located within the receptacle.

25 31. A system according to claim 30, characterised in that the calorifier is arranged such that the decontaminating member or members will generally locate in a lowermost part or parts of the receptacle.

30 32. A system according to claims 30 or 31, characterised in that a drain is provided towards the lower part of the receptacle, with filter means to prevent the decontaminating member or members from passing through the drain.

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33. A system according to claim 32, characterised in that at least the part of the drain which extends into the receptacle has an outer surface of antibacterial material.

5 34. A system according to any of claims 30 to 33, characterised in that a coating of antibacterial material is provided on the inner surface of a lower part of the receptacle.

10 35. A shower arrangement substantially as hereinbefore described and with reference to Fig. 1 of the accompanying drawings.

36. A shower arrangement substantially as hereinbefore described and with reference to Fig. 2 of the accompanying drawings.

15 37. A calorifier substantially as hereinbefore described and with reference to Fig. 5 of the accompanying drawings.

38. A water distribution system substantially as hereinbefore described and as with reference to Fig. 6 of the accompanying drawings.

20 39. Any novel subject matter or combination including novel subject matter disclosed herein, whether or not within the scope of or relating to the same invention as any of the preceding claims.